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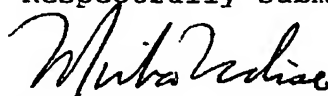
REMARKS

Claims 1 to 12 and 24 to 31 are pending. Claims 2 to 12 are allowed.

The Examiner indicates that the presently pending claims are now directed to separate inventions. Invention I (claims 1 and 24 to 31) is drawn to an implantable medical device assembly while Invention II (claims 2 to 12) is directed to a header for a medial device. In that respect, the Applicants elect to prosecute claims 2 to 12 and cancel claims 1, 24 to 31. However, the Applicant reserves the right to re-file the application directed to the non-elected Invention I.

As set forth in the office action dated December 16, 2004, claims 2 to 12 are allowed. Accordingly a Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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